Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

First Community Meeting | Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Location: Westdale Middle School (with virtual participation)

Meeting time: Evening session; exact call-to-order and adjournment times not confirmed in transcript

Presiding: Natalie Tillman-London, SEAC Chairperson / ESS Supervisor

Minutes prepared by: Carmen W. Overton, SEAC Secretary

Status: Draft — subject to council review and approval

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Chairperson Natalie Tillman-London welcomed in-person and virtual participants and invited SEAC committee members to introduce themselves.
- Virtual participants identified in the transcript included April Hampton and Cynthia Chesterfield. The recording does not provide a reliable complete attendance roster.

2. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Carmen W. Overton read a summary of the spring 2026 SEAC community meeting, including the "Bridging the Gap" pre-K-to-kindergarten presentation, recognition of parents, and family discussion.
- The chair indicated that the prior minutes had been adopted. The current recording does not clearly establish a new motion, second, or vote.

3. Purpose of SEAC and Family Communication

- The chair explained that SEAC gathers family questions, suggestions, and proposed topics, reviews submissions, and plans presentations and responses to better support students and families.
- Families were encouraged to submit topics through district communication channels and share meeting information with others.
- A quarterly ESS parent newsletter was being developed to share meeting information, flyers, minutes, and community resources. Outreach methods discussed included text messages, the district website, school flyers, and social media.

4. Parent Liaison Presentation and IEP Guidance

- Parent liaisons Ms. Morgan and Ms. Price presented their roles in helping families navigate special education processes and access support. Liaisons serve assigned school regions and can coordinate referrals or follow-up when a family is outside their region.
- An interactive activity reviewed parent participation, annual IEP goals, meeting notifications, and transition planning.

- Presenters discussed prior notification letters, IEP team participation, related-service providers, parent participation in excusal decisions, and the initial IEP process.
- The IEP overview addressed general student information, instructional planning, accommodations, services, placement, and transition planning.
- Before an IEP meeting, families were encouraged to organize student records, prepare written concerns and questions, and remain focused on student needs. During meetings, parents were encouraged to take notes, participate in decisions, request clarification, and collaborate with the team.
- After meetings, families were encouraged to obtain and review the finalized IEP, maintain communication with teachers and service providers, verify accommodations, and review progress reports, including nine-week goal updates.
- Questions were raised about notice timing, attendance options, bringing support persons, recording meetings, and disagreement with proposed decisions. Because the transcript contains conflicting or unclear statements, these minutes do not characterize those comments as definitive legal guidance.

5. Family Questions and Breakout Sessions

- Families participated in brief one-on-one intake sessions with parent liaisons to share concerns and contact information. Additional support was available for IEP-related questions.
- Presenters stated that staff would review concerns and relevant IEP information and contact families by the end of the following week. Individual student matters were not documented in these public minutes.

6. Announcements and Community Resources

- A parent liaison Lunch and Learn covering similar information was announced for Thursday, November 12, 2026, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., at the Goodwood Center, Conference Room 8; attendees could bring lunch, and light refreshments were planned.
- Families were reminded to keep their contact information updated in JCampus so they can receive district communications.
- Flyers were shared for free disability-inclusive and family events, including sensory-friendly activities, Families Helping Families programming, a Down syndrome art activity, and an upcoming special-needs health fair. Event details were available on the distributed flyers.
- Quarterly community-event flyers and newsletter contributions were encouraged.

7. Upcoming SEAC Meetings

- Next community meeting: Wednesday, February 3, 2027, 5:00–7:30 p.m., Park Elementary School.
- Third community meeting: April 2027; location to be announced.

8. Action Items and Follow-Up

- Parent liaisons: follow up with families who submitted individual concerns, by the end of the week following the meeting, as announced.
- SEAC/ESS team: continue quarterly newsletter and event-flyer development; include meeting information and community resources.
- SEAC/ESS communications team: continue distributing meeting notices through schools, digital channels, and family contact information.
- Families: update JCampus contact information and submit future topics or questions for council consideration.

9. Closing

- The chair thanked families, committee members, presenters, and partners for participating and reminded attendees of the next meeting.
- The transcript records closing remarks but does not clearly establish the exact adjournment time.

Source note: Prepared from the October 28, 2026 meeting transcription. Portions of the automated transcription were incomplete or inaccurate; uncertain names, exact times, and individual student details have been omitted rather than inferred.

Reviewed/Approved by: _____ Date: 10/29/26

Fall Events

SCHEDULE

For students with disabilities

October 30

Sensory-Friendly Fall Social

3 - 5 pm
Butterfly Effects - ABA Therapy
11607 Southfork Avenue
Baton Rouge, LA

October 31

All Are Welcome Fall Family Fun Day

10 am - 1 pm
St. John the Evangelist
15208 LA-73
Prairieville, LA 70769

October 31

Families Helping Families Coffins & Candy Dance Party

5 pm - 7 pm
2536 Drusilla Lane Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Nov 14 & Dec 12

Art Talk
For Down Syndrome Awareness Group Families

Scan QR Code to Register

November 21

Families Helping Families
Flourish & Thrive Special Needs Health Fair

10 am - 12 pm
The Inspiration Center
5509 Winbourne Ave Baton Rouge, LA

Let Us Know!

If you know of an upcoming community event please contact jeannine.childers@gmail.com

Your Voice MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SEAC)

MEETINGS FOR THE 2026–2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Join us for the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) meetings to support collaboration, share updates, and provide input on programs and services for students with disabilities in the East Baton Rouge Parish School System.

MEETING 1
Wednesday,
October 28, 2026
5:00 – 7:30 PM
Westdale Middle School

MEETING 2
Wednesday,
February 3, 2027
5:00 – 7:30 PM
Park Elementary School

MEETING 3
Wednesday,
April 28, 2027
5:00 – 7:30 PM
TBA

COLLABORATE
with families, staff, and community partners

STAY INFORMED
on programs, resources, and district updates

SHARE IDEAS
and provide input on services and supports

SUPPORT SUCCESS
for all students with disabilities

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT SERVICES EBR

Stronger Together

SUPPORT • ADVOCATE • INFORM • BUILD BRIGHTER FUTURES

EBR
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM